

_____ BILL NO. _____

INTRODUCED BY _____
(Primary Sponsor)

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT 30 DAYS AFTER A WRITTEN JUDGMENT IS ENTERED AGAINST A DEFENDANT IN A CRIMINAL CASE, INTEREST BEGINS TO ACCRUE AND IS DUE ON ANY UNPAID FINES, COSTS, FEES, CHARGES, SURCHARGES, VICTIM RESTITUTION, AND OTHER PAYMENTS ORDERED BY THE COURT; PROVIDING THAT THE DEFENDANT MUST PAY COLLECTION COSTS; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Interest on unpaid fines, costs, fees, charges, surcharges, restitution, and other court-ordered payments -- collection costs. (1) Thirty days after a written judgment is entered, interest begins to accrue and is due on any unpaid fines, costs, fees, charges, surcharges, victim restitution, and other payments ordered by the court. The interest rate is the prime rate of major New York banks as published in the last issue of the Wall Street Journal published prior to the date on which the written judgment was entered. (2) A court or a state or local government agency collecting or contracting out the collection of payments referred to in subsection (1) is entitled to collect the reasonable cost of collecting overdue payments.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 46, chapter 18, part 2, and the provisions of Title 46 apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Applicability. [This act] applies to offenses committed after [the effective date of this act].

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